

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. JORDAN: THE HAWK HUNT CONTINUES

AMBASSADOR PICKERING MET WITH THE KING, RIFAI AND THE CROWN
PRINCE APRIL 28 TO BE BRIEFED ON THE LATTER'S DISCUSSIONS
WITH THE SAUDIS. PICKERING LEARNED THAT:

--THE SAUDIS INDICATED GREAT CONCERN ABOUT THE POSSI-
BILITY OF A SOVIET PRESENCE IN JORDAN AND SEEMED CON-
VINCED THAT HUSSEIN WOULD TURN TO MOSCOW IF THE US DEAL
FELL THROUGH.

--THE FIGURE OF \$500 MILLION WAS MENTIONED AS THE SAUDI
CONTRIBUTION, WITH THE US ASSISTING IN GUARANTEEING A
SECOND PHASE.

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--THE SAUDIS WERE RESPONSIVE, BUT APPEAR TO BE CONFUSED ABOUT THE PACKAGE AND THE AMOUNTS INVOLVED.

THE AMBASSADOR REITERATED US SUPPORT IN AN EFFORT TO ALLAY HUSSEIN'S CONCERN WITH WHAT HE CONSIDERS OVERWHELMING DEFENSE PROBLEMS. (SECRET) AMMAN 2301 (EXDIS), 4/28.)

2. PORTUGAL: HAS PPD GIVEN EANES THE KISS OF DEATH?

IN DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO THE APRIL 25 ELECTIONS, EMBASSY LISBON REPORTS:

--THE POPULAR DEMOCRATS HAVE BACKED OFF SA CARNEIRO'S THREAT TO LEAVE THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT AND ARE RECOMMENDING ARMY CHIEF EANES AS A CONSENSUS CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT.

--SOARES HAS REITERATED THE PS INTENTION TO GOVERN ALONE AND THE PS IS MEETING TO DISCUSS STRATEGY.

--THE CDS IS PLANNING TO VOTE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAM OF A MINORITY PS GOVERNMENT, BUT WOULD BE OPEN TO A "GRAND COALITION" WITH THE PS AND PPD.

EMBASSY COMMENT: PPD ENDORSEMENT OF EANES NOW WILL HURT HIM MORE THAN HELP HIM. ONCE AGAIN THE PPD HAS REACTED HASTILY AND AGGRESSIVELY TO A SITUATION WHICH THEY PERCEIVE AS THREATENING. (CONFIDENTIAL) LISBON 2777; 4/28.)

3. PRC STILL WARY OF THE INDIANS

PRC FOREIGN MINISTER CHIAO KUAN-HUA RECENTLY TOLD THE SRI LANKAN EMBASSY THAT THE SOVIETS ARE TRYING TO SPLIT THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND THAT DISCUSSION OF DIVISIVE ISSUES AT COLOMBO (E.G. SAHARA AND EAST TIMOR) WOULD ONLY PLAY INTO SOVIET HANDS. ACCORDING TO THE LIAISON OFFICE, THE FOREIGN MINISTER ADDED THAT:

--ONE SHOULD BE CAREFUL WITH YUGOSLAVIA AT THE MEETING, FOR THEY ARE TOO CLOSE TO INDIA.

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--DESPITE THE ARRIVAL OF A NEW INDIAN AMBASSADOR, THE PRC WILL REMAIN VIGILANT TO ANY INDIAN ATTEMPT TO BULLY ITS NEIGHBORS.

--THE ARGUMENT THAT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PRESENCE (USSR) AND BASES (US) IN THE INDIAN OCEAN IS FALSE. (CHIAO AVOIDED AN ENDORSEMENT OF THE US BASE

AT DIEGO GARCIA, BUT THE SRI LANKANS READ HIS COMMENTS
AS PRACTICALLY THE SAME THING.) (CONFIDENTIAL)
USLO PEKING 760 (LIMDIS), 4/28.)

4. T & T PRIMIN CHIDES LATIN ADVENTURISM

PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO HAS SPOKEN
OUT AGAINST OUTSIDE INTERVENTION IN AFRICA. IN AN EXTEMPO-
RANEOUS ELECTION CAMPAIGN SPEECH, WILLIAMS:

--SAID AFRICANS WERE CAPABLE OF SOLVING THEIR OWN PROB-
LEMS WITHOUT GUIDANCE FROM PRESUMPTUOUS PEOPLE IN THE
CARIBBEAN;

--SCOFFED AT LATINS WHO MAKE A GREAT PUBLIC DISPLAY OF
THEIR TIES WITH AFRICA BUT WHOM THE AFRICANS CONSIDER
OUTSIDERS; AND

--RENEWED HIS WARNING AGAINST LATIN AMERICAN ATTEMPTS
TO "RECOLONIZE" THE CARIBBEAN. (LIMITED OFFICIAL
USE) PORT OF SPAIN 1046, 4/28.) SISCO

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